

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-74 (cancelled)

75. (currently amended) A transformer comprising:

a converter including an input for receiving media content ~~according to at least one of a plurality of media formats~~, said converter providing:

at least one media block ~~corresponding to~~ comprising at least a portion of said media content, ~~wherein said at least one media block begins with an integral frame,~~
and

~~said converter providing a corresponding at least one media block content~~
identifier comprising a description of content of ~~for~~ said at least one ~~media~~ media
block₁

a storage managing unit coupled to said converter to receive said at least one media block and said ~~at least~~ media block content identifier,

said storage manager providing a ~~corresponding~~ storage address for said at least one media block₁

a translator configured to ~~provide relate~~ said storage address to ~~based upon~~ said media ~~block content~~ identifier;

said transformer thereby enabling retrieval of stored media content in response to receiving a description of stored media content to be retrieved, based upon said media block identifier.

76. (currently amended) The transformer of claim 75 wherein said converter input is coupled to ~~the output of an~~ at least one encoder providing encoded digital media content from a digital media source, selected from the group comprising: MPEG, AVI and DIVX, said transformer enabling retrieval of media blocks based on said associated media content identifiers regardless of encoder output format.

77. (currently amended) The transformer of claim ~~76~~ 75 wherein said media ~~block~~ content identifier comprises metadata selected from the group comprising is addressable by a start time indicator, end time, channel, program, availability and duration.

78. (currently amended) The ~~media content~~ transformer of claim ~~74~~ 75 wherein at least one of said portions of media content comprises a single frame of said media content and wherein said single frame is retrievable from storage based on said associated media content identifier. ~~—further comprising:~~

~~at least one encoder coupled to said transform unit to provide media content comprising a time sequence of digital frames to said media content transformer.~~

79 -85. (canceled)

86. (currently amended) A network comprising:

~~a plurality of servers including~~ at least one distribution server coupled to ~~said at least one~~ data storage device, ~~the distribution server~~ and adapted to retrieve ~~said~~ at least one media content block from said at least one storage device based upon said ~~media content identifier~~ a description of stored media content.

87. (currently amended) A method for storing media comprising steps of:

receiving media content to be stored ~~in at least one of a plurality of media formats;~~

converting at least a portion of said media content to at least one media block ~~wherein said at least one media block begins with an integral frame;~~

providing ~~a corresponding~~ at least one media block content identifier associated with content of said at least one media block for said at least one media block media;

storing said media blocks;

~~providing a corresponding storage address for said at least one media blocks;~~

~~translating said media block identifier to said storage address;~~

thereby enabling retrieval of stored media blocks ~~stored media content~~, based upon ~~said media block~~ content identifier.

88. (New) The method of claim 87 wherein said media block identifiers comprise at least one of a filename, metadata and text.